Beware of Scam Attempting to Gain Personal Information

Date: June 15, 2022

(Updated July 5, 2022 to include additional scam websites)

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) is aware of a recent scam attempting to gain personal information; it claims that individuals have unemployment benefits available. Texans are warned not to send any personally identifiable information or transact any business except through TWC's Unemployment Benefits Services (UBS) portal, fraud portal, Tele-Serv (automated phone system) or Tele-Centers. **Do not click on any link provided in a text. Ins**

Last week, TWC received information from several individuals who received a scam text message saying a "back payment deposit" was now available (see below). Other messages indicate the individual's claim will expire and to select a link to receive the claim balance. The text messages instruct individuals to click a link to update their payment method. The fraudsters are using multiple web addresses that end with an address that attempts to mimic a government website. The link takes the scam victim to a website built to look like TWC's Unemployment Benefits Services (UBS), but it is **not** a legitimate TWC address.

TWC is aware of the following scam web addresses. However, customers should be aware that fraudsters continue to create new scam webpages as soon as one is removed. **The following fake websites have been reported:**

- mushroommama.com/Twc/state.tx.us
- alanbarber.com/Twc/state.tx.us
- animationdok.com/Twc/state.tx.us
- renatodias.com/Twc/state.tx.us
- acbnk.com//twc/receive.payment/texas.gov
- goldenmachinetools.com/twc/receive.payment/texas.gov
- harinadecastana.cl/Twc/texas.comp
- mesolongi.gr/twc/unemployment/tx.gov

Don't become a victim of a scam. The following indicators will help you identify scams.

- TWC never sends text messages regarding a person's unemployment claim.
- Pay attention to the website link formatting. The fraudulent links may include a main address ending in ".com", or some other address which is a red flag. If in doubt, always contact TWC through its website, www.twc.texas.gov.
- TWC never solicits personal information like Social Security numbers through email, social media, or text.

You should not click on any link provided by text, and if unsure, contact TWC to verify the legitimacy of the information.

There are two methods to review or change your TWC deposits unemployment benefit payments.

- 1. **UBS**: Log on to <u>ui.texasworkforce.org</u> using your User ID and Password, then select Payment Option.
- 2. **Tele-Serv**: Call 800-558-8321, enter your Social Security Number and PIN, and select option 5 (Payment Option).

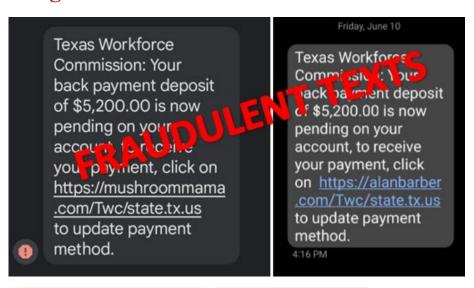
UBS home page: <u>ui.texasworkforce.org</u> or <u>twc.texas.gov/jobseekers/unemployment-benefits-services</u>

UBS log on page: apps.twc.state.tx.us/UBS/security/logon.do

TWC official website: twc.texas.gov

All Texans should take steps to secure their identity online by practicing Internet security best practices. Treat your TWC account and all accounts like you would your bank account. TWC will investigate every unemployment benefit claim to confirm identity and to lock accounts that are fraudulent.

Image of Fraudulent Texts



Texas Workforce Commission: Your active claim will expire on 02/07/2022 with claim balance of \$6,568.00, to claim your benefit balance click on https://acbnk.com//twa/raceite.gament /textender and update payment method, you will receive your net payment of \$6,568.00 in 24 hours.

Texas Workforce
Commission: The hold
on your back payment
has been released new
you have \$7.021.00
that is building to get
ball on your claim
profile, click on https://goldenmachinetools.com/twc/receive.nayment/texas.gov to
receive payment.

Texas Workforce Commission: Your back payment deposit of \$5,200.00 is new pending on your account, to receive your payment, click on https://mesolongi.gr/twc/unemployment/tx.gov to update payment method.